

LaVince Pate #HX5409
1100 Pike Street
Huntingdon, P.A. 16654-1112

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public comments
445 12th street, 5W
Washington, D.C. 20554

November 26, 2012

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition
(CC Docket # 96-128)

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

My name is LaVince Pate and I am currently incarcerated at S.C.I. Huntingdon P.A. I am writing to you in concerns of the high priced phone calls. For me to talk to my four years old daughter for a short 15 minutes on the phone, I have to pay \$5.15. I once was able to use a free service called, "GOOGLE VOICE," to call my daughter for 15 minutes, a \$1.69 per call. I was using "GOOGLE VOICE" for almost two years, building a great father/daughter relationship, as it was financially feasible. Now that opportunity is nearly a financial impossibility.

The D.O.C. removed all "GOOGLE VOICE" phone numbers without warning. Also they monopolized collect calling, forcing my- as all other prisoners family & friends to buy collect call services from one provider- "GLOBEL TEL LINK." Even thou my mother already has collect calling in her cable agreement. Just like my sister who could accept collect calls as part aof her phone contract. I can not call my mother or sister collect until they buy "GLOBAL TEL LINK's" collect call service.

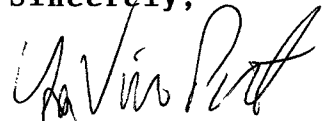
I can always buy a phone card from commissarry. But in order to call my mother ,sister & daughter at least twice a month. My family will have to send me \$40 a month. After the D.O.C. takes their percent from my families money, I will only have enough to buy two \$15 phone cards, allowing me six pre-paid phone calls. I cannot build a good healthy/positive relationships with my family, let along a little 4 year old girl, who needs to hear her father's voice more than just 30 minutes a month.

The D.O.C.'s mission statement in part reads: "The mission of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections is... to provide opportunities for inmates to acquire... values necessary to

to become productive law-abiding citizens..." One such value for successful and productive reintegration into society is maintaining- or forming- a healthy support system while incarcerated. Research has proven that those who upon exiting the DOC's custody are surrounded by a spouse, close family members, and/or friends are most likely to succeed in home community environments.

Reasonably priced phone calls is one of the many things that directly affect inmates values and the success rate of reintegration into society. The D.O.C. should be applauding "GOOGLE VOICE" for providing inmates with affordable phone calls. The D.O.C. likewise should be praising inmates for finding a legitimate, legal phone service that helps them call family and friends at a reasonable cost. A lot of inmates are encouraged to better their self's by doing programs and other positive things by having constant opportunities to talk to those on the phone. Instead, the D.O.C. implicitly is discouraging and jeering at these inmate-initiated attempts at rehabilitation.

Sincerely,



LaVince Pate

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room 27th Nov 2012

Dear Chairman Julius Genachowski,

This is a public comment for C.C. Docket # 96-128
(The Wright Petition)

The Global tel link phone company charges my family \$3.85 for a phone call that lasts 15 minutes. I don't understand why I call within West Virginia and it costs that much. Especially with the poor quality of connection that my family and I have while on the phone. There has been numerous times the phone has cut us off in the middle of our conversations. The GTL Company also for no reason switch our phone account from a collect monthly bill that my family paid every month on time. To a pre-paid system that charges you to put money on the account and also charges these high phone rates. So now they can make more money. My mom put 25 dollars on the phone and we only get to use 20 of it. Then they charge me \$1.05 just to connect the call. So my first phone call has cost me 6 dollars.

I also can only speak to my brother in Pennsylvania once and a while since the call is 9 dollars for 15 minutes. Which is crazy for them to have to pay. So I get limited opportunities to talk to him.

Thanks for this Petition I hope something get done for the families of all inmates so we can talk to them more often.

Sincerely

Michael Spiller

Mr. John Casey
798170, AMCC, ME40
P.O. Box 2049
Airway Heights, WA 99001-2049

November 24, 2012

Received & Inspected

DEC -3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Request for the FCC to assist to reduce the cost of prison phone calls for both in and out of State. This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket No.96-128).

Chairman Genachowski:

Please assist to facilitate assistance from the FCC to reduce the cost of prison phone calls for both in and out of State.

My family and I have been negatively affected beyond words due to our inability to communicate frequently via phone calls, and for a reasonable cost. I am incarcerated in Washington State and my immediate and extended family of approximately twenty-five individuals live in Colorado.

A twenty-minute collect phone call to Colorado averages thirty-five dollars (\$35.00), which is extremely prohibitive for all of my family members.

I have been incarcerated in WA State for approximately fourteen-years, and the past and current long distance phone providers reek of organized corruption through their price gouging, analogous to Federal RICO violations (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (19 U.S.C. 1961)), with the WA Department of Corrections complicit in every way, ensuring they get their cut of all costs to inmates and their families.

In addition, a number of calls are disconnected prematurely before the twenty-minute end time, thereby necessitating me and others to make a second collect call to complete the first. Therefore, all inmates and families are required to pay a second connection fee along with fees for all additional minutes.

In conclusion, please pursue the unfair business practices and pricing. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

John H. Casey

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

DEAR CHAIRMAN Julius Genachowski, December 1, 2012

This is a comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket #96-128). In regards of writing of high phone cost, I will like to add how it effect many mentally & how it bother me not to be able to talk to my children. I've been convicted 11½ months that took me from my family and due to financial crisis of trying to maintain a life in this is very difficult.

My family reaches out as far as Buffalo, New York where my Aunt & Uncle lives. They are elderly and living on a fixed income. To talk with them cost 15 dollars for 15 minutes or more. I have family in Illinois where \$50 dollars calling to Glen Carbon, Illinois don't even give me 30 minutes.

I have children here in Tennessee, that haven't had the privilege of talking cause they mother can't afford to get a account. I will love to talk with family without putting them in more of a burden than they already are. So please come up with a better system for many in the situation I'm as well. Mental Turmoil & to not be able to talk with family makes me feel at times that it's not much to live for. I'm in Prison no need to have my family in prison too.

Trying to fix what's Broken.

Lamont Johnson # 498866

T.C.I. X MAIN 4A-221

1444 R.W. Moore Memorial Hwy.

ONLY, Tennessee 37140-4050

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

Dear Chairman Julius Genachowski FCC Mail Room

My name is Chris Batch JY7749 a inmate at S.C.I Somerset. And I'm writing about the prices with the Phone calls. It cost me \$5.15 to call to a city that is only 1 to 2 ~~countys~~ County's away from this Jail. I have been robbed by this Phone Company with calls being disconnected from this Jail (\$50 in all)

It's hard for my family and my child to get to talk to me Cause of these prices. Then with the economy messed up it makes it no easier. Phone calls for people of Somerset County are only a \$1.60. And wish that the price gets dropped down to that for Western PA calls,

BECAUSE not only that my child can't talk to me I have a young uncle who lost his eye site and a leg. And needs all the encouragement possible.

Thank you

Respectfully
Mr. Batch

November 21, 2012

Received & Ins
DEC - 3 2012
FCC Mail Room

[This is a public comment for CC Docket #96-128.]
(The Wright Petition)

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Thank you for your time and Kind consideration. My name is Gregory Zimmerman, a current federal inmate. Prior to my incarceration I was a single father. I am fortunate, however, to have the help of my mother to see that my teenage daughter is cared for while I am away. Additionally, I have a son who just returned from Afghanistan, where he was serving as a Lance-Corporal of the U.S. Marine Corps. So, as you can certainly imagine, the ability to maintain frequent telephone communication is important. Unfortunately, on countless occasions high phone rates have prevented this much needed communication. Due to these high rates I have had to apologize to my daughter for the inability to help her with homework assignments, and again to my son for the inability to continually call long distance to the military base where he is stationed.

Thus, I ask you: Why, sir, should regular family contact be discouraged by exorbitant prison phone rates, especially when such contact is shown to reduce the likelihood of recidivism? It seems that under close scrutiny these telephone companies would appear to be taking advantage of an already unfortunate situation by price-gouging those loved-ones of inmates who are paying these disproportionate costs. What message does this convey to society? Does this practice facilitate rehabilitation or prepare inmates for re-entry into society?

Sir, I ask you for your empathy or otherwise your sympathy. The inability to be with family is a great punishment in itself, but to deter

regular family telephone communication by price-gouging those productive members of society that are unfortunate to have loved-ones who are incarcerated is a despicable business practice, which will hopefully soon come to an end. Please help us with this matter.

Humbly yours,

Gregory Zimmerman
Gregory Zimmerman

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

11-27-12

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition
(cc Docket # 96-128)

Dear Chairman Genachowski, I am writing because of the high cost of the calls on the telephone. It has made a big difference in my life. It's already out of sight, out of mind, because of us being so far from our city. I know you might say to yourself, "Well they can always write a letter" but it's just not the same. When me and my girl was still together, even though we wrote each other at least three times a week, she use to always say how bad she needed to at least hear my voice after I wouldn't call for a month. And the only reason I would take time off was because I had to balance the little money I had. It use to stress her, into thinking she wasn't doing enough for me as far as sending me enough money. Anyway I lost her, but I have a twelve year old son, and I just don't want the same to happen to him. Even though I can't be physically there for him right now, he still needs my guidance. I've learned a lot sense I've been in prison, and I understand the importance of building a strong foundation for your children; And more than that I'm already in here not doing much for him, I just don't know what I would do if something bad would happen to him.

I write him all the time, and when I talk to him on the phone about what I wrote him in the letter he acts like he doesn't even know what I'm talking about. He's still young so it's hard to explain that I can't call as much as I would like because the phone calls are too high. Of course he says he's going to write me back but never does. It would just make a huge difference if we could get the price of phone calls down, the high cost, along with it being too far for our families to visit is a bit much. And with the phone system changing or being cheaper would lighten the load a lot. The thing that's out there Google voice, and a lot of new services they won't even let us use. The excuse is always the same "It's a form of call forwarding, or three way system" like one of these billion dollar companies is going to forward, or give us a three way call. Thank you for your time, my name is Hallim Wakeel #500748

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

11-22-12

Chairman Julius Genachouse

Hello my name is Troy A. Cauthon my inmate NO. JX5478 I resided at SCI Forest. I am writing this brief letter concerning about these high phone calls that SCI Forest has put install for us. My complaint is that the call are to expensive to call my family and since they put this new system in, I cannot not call collect call no more! I came here to this jail 18 month ago and to call to phila, Pa. cost me \$5.00 a call, which I consider to be very high. This can be very hard on alot of people families and it hurts the line of communication to your love one's, because of the monopolism the poor people of this facility. Please take in this information and hopefully a change can be made! Thank You!

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Attn: Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission.
Public Comments
445 12TH ST., SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

From: Rusty Rean #36303-086
% U.S.P. Lewisburg
P.O. Box 1000
Lewisburg, PA 17837

RE: THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT
PETITION (CC Docket # 96-128)

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing you to express the impact that ridiculously high prison telephone rates has effected my family and I.

Many in my family possess poor literacy skills and/or the enthusiasm to write Snail-Mail in this Post Internet Era. The only efficient way of communicating with my Loved-Ones are via Telephone. I am in Federal Prison, more than 2,500 miles from my Hometown (Portland, Oregon) and visits are almost impossible.

Due to my lack of communication with my Loved-Ones, my Family Ties have been severely damaged.

(Continued...)

My Wife divorced me, and my kids call someone else "Daddy" for lack of my presence in their lives and my inability to efficiently communicate with them. I have been in prison for seven years now, and I am all but a distant memory to them.

The lack of love, affection, and support (on a regular/daily basis), due to expensive telephone rates, has caused me to ~~become~~ become bitter towards, not just my Loved-Ones, but, the world! My emotions have become desensitized as a result, and I have little motivation to be optimistic in my own rehabilitation. I fear, when I get out, I will be unable to appreciate the emotions which dictate righteousness in society, due to several years of severed family and community ties.

I am asking you to please take into consideration the "bigger picture", when it comes to the monopoly these prison phone companies have on the industry. It goes beyond what meets the eye, and creates a "butterfly effect" that affects everyone in society.

Please consider regulations that ensure a fair/reasonable rate for prison calls and promotes competition. Thank You.

Respectfully, Rusty Rear

Received & Inspected

FEC - 3 2012

DEAR CHAIRMAN GENOCHOWSKI, FCC Mail Room November 21, 2012

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CC DOCKET #96-128 (THE WRIGHT PETITION).

I HAVE BEEN A FEDERAL PRISONER SINCE 1988. IN ALL THOSE YEARS, I HAVE NEVER USED ALL OF THE 300 MINUTES THAT THE BOP ALLOCATE TO US. I CANNOT AFFORD TO.

EVEN WITH PAYING FOR THE CALLS MYSELF, I CAN ONLY AFFORD TO MAKE ONE OR TWO CALLS TO MY MOTHER. CONSEQUENTLY, I HAVE LOST COMMUNICATION WITH ALL OF MY OTHER FRIENDS & FAMILY. WHEN I AM FORCED TO MAKE A COLLECT CALL, MY MOTHER HAS TO GO WITHOUT FOOD FOR A WEEK TO BE ABLE TO PAY FOR THE CALL.

SOMETHING NEEDS TO CHANGE. PLEASE HELP US.

Sincerely,

Bruce Spring

BRUCE SPRING

#18387-080

P.O. Box 1000

LEWISBURG, PA 17837

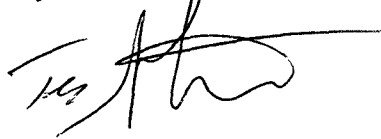
DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genschowski:

I am writing to you about the cost of phone calls for inmates. I am currently in SCI-Forest in Pennsylvania. SCI-Forest is 4½ to 5 hours away from my family. To place a call to one of my family, it costs me \$5.15 and only get 15 minutes. I call my 2 children and mother. I am very limited on funds, so I rarely get to call them. My 2 children do not have jobs and my mother collects Social Security and has a very limited income. I know they would help but they just can't. The cost for a phone call is just too much. They say that family contact and support is an essential part in the rehabilitation of an inmate. Letters are ok but hearing their voice on the phone is better encouragement. Please help the inmates with lower phone costs.

Yours truly



Troy Stewart KJ9949
SCI-Forest
PO Box 945
Marionville PA 16239

Bruce Murray # AY2900
P.O. Box 945
Marienville Pa 16235

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

This is a public comment for the Knight Petition c.c. Docket # 96-128. Sir the high costs of prison phone calls have destroyed the bonding process between child & father, husband & wife... Please note in prison if you are not working you only get \$3.00 to \$5.00 to do odd job's but other job is no more than \$30.00 maybe a month... Now paying court fees, sick call, things you need to take care of yourself etc. leaves you nothing to call home... If a family member die, you must pay to call home, so because of high cost you can't even do that.

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Benachowski

I'm a lifer who's been incarcerated for 28 years dealing with the prison system. (D.O.C)

My family also have been dealing with the system by supporting me throughout my time of incarceration.

They are the ones that's being victimized by the D.O.C when they visit me, the food prices are jacked up, not to mention the prices for pictures.

Just recently my mom's phone was restricted from excepting collect calls. Now she's being told in order for me to call collect she has to open up an account with a complete different company. My mom's phone been excepting collect calls since I was a kid. These collect calls cost over \$5.00 a call which is a lot when you living on a fixed income.

The D.O.C preach keeping families together but everything they do pushes families apart.

We get \$4.00 a month allowance and its been this way for decades now.

But yet the prices in commissary go up just about every year.

11
When you get minimum wages
and the price of living goes up, so do
your minimum wages.

its damn near impossible to live
off of \$14.00 a month. so we have no
choice but to rely on our love ones
even if they cant afford it.

So if theres anything you can
do to help us in this adversity, please
do.

Thank you for your time and
concerns.

Gerald James
#BL-7560
50 overlook dr.
Lebanon, PA. 15450-0999

11-25-12

CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACKOWSKI
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PUBLIC COMMENTS
445 12TH ST, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genackowski,

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIST PETITION (CC DOCKET 96-128).

I AM A KENTUCKY INMATE FOR REPORTING A CRIME TO A GOVT THAT HAS GIVEN ITSELF ABSOLUTE IMMUNITY TO STAND AND LIE IN COURT (42 U.S.C.S. § 1983) 16 YEARS THIS FAR, WHILE MY 77 (78 IN 6 WEEKS) MOTHER, A WIDOW, MUST JUGGLE MY WEEKLY PHONE CALLS INTO A BUDGET INCLUDING FIVE KIDS AND MORE GRANDKIDS AND GREAT-GRANDKIDS THAN I EVEN KNOW OF.

PLEASE SPARE US THESE ATROCIOUS PHONE PENALTIES - I MAKE \$9 A DAY HERE, I CAN'T HELP. AT MY ARREST AFTER WATCHING 3 1/2 YEARS OF ASSAULTS SHROUDED OFF 'INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE,' EVEN ONCE WITH 1/2 DOZEN WITNESSES, I HAD TO DEFEND MYSELF MOMENTS AFTER THE POLICE I'D CALLED AGAIN WROTE OFF UNCONCERNED UNTIL THE TV CAMERAS GOT THERE -.

SO FOR REPORTING A CRIME I WENT FROM HOME PAID FOR, UNION JOB, JURY DUTY AT AGE 46 TO 'TRAINED KILLER UNFIT TO WALK THE STREETS' (PROSECUTOR TO JURY) FOR A 26-YR-OLD HONORABLE DISCHARGE - A GOVT DEVOID OF DECENCY AT ANY POINT! CHASED OUT OF KOREA IN 1951, OUT OF VIETNAM IN 1975, IT TURNED ON ITS PEOPLE LIKE A DRUNK ON HIS FAMILY AFTER A BAD NIGHT ON THE TOWN. LIE TO THE JURY, THEN EVERY ANSWER IS 'A JURY FOUND YOU GUILTY.'

THIS GOVT IS ABOVE NOTHING, PHONE COSTS OR PRISON STORE PRICES ARE JUST ANOTHER WAY TO KICK US WHILE WE'RE DOWN - AND OUR FAMILIES,

PLEASE ENJOY THE ENCLOSED,

FEEL FREE TO USE ANYTHING I WRITE
OR SEND IN ANY MANNER YOU PLEASE!

Hope, Thank you



ROBERT ANGELINI 133665
KY STATE REFORMATORY DORM 8
3001 W. HIGHWAY 146
LAGRANGE, KY. 40032

'Twas A Crimestoppers Christmas

Just another sad Christmas all alone in "the Big House"
for reporting a crime, I've the future of a dead mouse.
Purchased evidence from a felon, because I did care,
not knowing I'd be left for dead, there's TV coverage there!
Under \$4000 is only District Court, which won't get them ahead,
so Louisville Burglary ignored it, "crime's down" instead!
Yes, I talked to an officer with a badge on his cap,
but with evidence and witness, the police took a nap.
For years I came home to rocks, threats, and clatter,
to have police wander by later, "we don't see what's the matter?"
They'd drive off unconcerned, and I'd be assaulted in a flash,
to have police called on me by punks, all lying and sass.
Listening to the thief and his family, the police don't care or know
that the evil I reported was ignored, that's why crime is so low.
As a model citizen I'd worked a good job for years,
the home I lost was long paid for, I don't deserve these tears!
While this government slowly muddles - the criminals are quick,
stick together and help each other - oh, this system is sick.
After trusting "crimestoppers" my years of assaults came,
but the prosecutors are only concerned when it will glorify their names.
Criminal complaints returned 'insufficient' despite all the fixin's
even had to write our capitol to get minor convictions.
An outlaw has nothing to lose, keeping you pinned to the wall,
he's a hero to friends and family, punching until you fall.
Police can't witness assaults that are done on the sly,
and even if you get them to court, they'll lie to the sky.
Finally you must defend yourself, as again pelting fists flew,
attacked on your property, with wounding utensils, too.
When you're forced to defend yourself, the crap hits the roof,
prancing felons - and ever, the prosecutor is finally on the hoof!

You survived this time only because things got turned around,
but one of the culpable is dead, so your hands and feet are bound.
The prosecutor knows the felon's lies put him ahead of a foot
and only he sees the Grand Jury, an affair he smothers in soot.
Legally allowed to stand in court and lie, never taking one back,
"Absolute Immunity" means he has free rein to open a pack.
For honorably serving our country, that we be free and merry,
I'm called a trained killer as this Geraldo-wannabe wants to bury.
Maligned a welfare cheat for my G.I. Bill college, little did I know,
I'm explaining deaths military - it's really a show!
The felon not only encouraged to lie through his teeth,
but proven wrong did it twice, then thrice - you'll see no relief.
Anything can be used against you, you're in Satan's belly,
while the prosecutor is on television, stomping the truth into jelly
You'll never again have the chance to speak for yourself,
as felons spout perjuries, your evidence is denied, on the shelf
"Who do I charge, with what, should he plea" fills the DAs head,
as he trades immunity for false testimony - the truth is long dead!
In twenty years he retires, a household name for his work,
to not be building a second career, he'd be a real jerk.
So here I sit wondering, if there is a God and He knows
why we hide in our homes as the prison population grows?
Think how this country is turning on you, and give a sad whistle -
your rights being taken, disarmed as I write, we're treated like gristle
The felony I reported has never seen the days light,
but this citizen's life is ruined - this bureaucracy is always right!

Robert Angelini, KY 96 CR 2173

Note: Mr. Angelini paid to have his poem printed. It is his story and his opinion, and not the opinion of the Portland Anchor.

TO THE
O.F. & C.C.
FREE PRESS DOSE
THIS!
11-26-12

Kenneth Bryant
NY 8739

SCI Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

DEC -3 2012

FCC Mail Room

**THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION
CC DOCKET #96-128**

Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to you in response to your fight to lower the high cost of phone calls from prisoners to their friends and families.

I am incarcerated at SCI Greene in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania and for me to call home (in state), the cost is \$5.41 using the Global Tel Link pre paid calling card system sold through the institution commissary. A collect call to that same number (in state) is just over \$6.00 (both for fifteen minute phone calls. A person who makes the same call out of state must pay a rate of \$8.00 to \$10.00 using the pre paid calling system, \$10.24 for a collect call. This is simply too much money for the majority of my family members, my support network, to afford, especially in this present economy. As it stands, I have very limited contact with my family and loved ones due to the excessive costs of these phone calls.

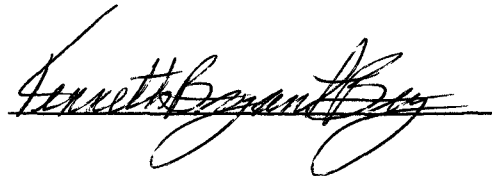
Recently, Pennsylvania transferred more than 1000 inmates to Michigan due to prison overcrowding. While there, they were allowed to make phone calls using the exact same system that Pennsylvania does (Global Tel Link). The calls from MI to anywhere in the United States were only \$1.80 for a fifteen minute phone call using the

same prepaid calling card system presently in use. Collect rates were only \$1.94 for the same amount of time. These are the same calls I have tried to make within Pennsylvania but I cannot afford them. In Michigan, these same calls were 70% cheaper and I do not understand how rates from Michigan to anywhere else in the United States are 30% of the cost of a call we pay in Pennsylvania for in state calls.

There are too many people that I am unable to call due to the fact that they cannot afford the cost. These are the same family members and friends whose support I will need to have a successful reentry back into society upon my release. However, I am losing my relationships with them due to lack of interaction and contact. And we should not be punished by GTL due to the fact that our friends and family members carry Vorizon as a carrier. We still deserve to keep in contact with our loved ones.

I hope that there is something that can be done about this, because it seems like all the phone company (GTL) and the D.O.C. (Department of Corrections) do is take advantage of our dire situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Bryant", written over a horizontal line.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI

HUGH CANNON SR. W91987

Received & inspected

P.O. Box 1218

DEC - 3 2012

MCI SHIALEY medium

FCC Mail Room

SHIALEY, MA. 01464-1218

THE PHONE COST TO MUCH THEY ARE
GOOGING INMATES WHO MAKE PHONE CALLS FROM
PRISONS I SPEND OVER \$3.00 PER CALL 3 TIME A DAY
THAT IS \$200.00 A MONTH

THE PHONE SEASTEM IS NO GOOD IT DOES NOT
WORK YOU CAN NOT HEAR ON IT (6 PHONES) I WILL WORK
THE PHONE IS VERY BAD IT IS NOT WERTH IT

Received & Inspected

RE: COMPLAINT / PRISON
Phones

Dec - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

DEAR FCC,

11/27/12

I'm in PRISON serving 146 yrs for crimes I did not commit. I am constantly calling home and swaying to attorneys etc - to help myself. I also have a daughter in VIRGINIA who is in prison. Her 15 min call to my sisters house from Troy VA to Cherryville NC. For 15 mins cost \$55.00. AT one point our bill was over 700⁰⁰ because of the high cost of rates both out of state and in state. My Brother is on disability and so is my mom. At one point his phone was cut off and he had to use his disability check to pay ~~to~~ to turn his phone back on and did w/o his medication. He did this out of love for me and its not fair you people get rich off of our calamities.

My Brother is on serious medications that he needs to keep him from constantly hurting from an accident that broke his neck. He suffered for me in order to enable me to pursue the truth of my false conviction.

My entire family HAS suffered financially. As a result of these high costs,

I can no longer call home. My mom is dying of terminal illness and I doubt I'll be exonerated before she passes and she is too sick to travel to see me. IT HURTS

THAT I CAN'T CALL NOW. The phone system
IS LIKE AN UNBILICAL CORD TO LIFE. IT HAS
NOW BEEN SEVERED FOR ME AND LIKE THOUSANDS
OF OTHER PRISONERS,

IM NOT USING THE
PRISON PHONE SYSTEM ANY LONGER BECAUSE I
DONT WANT TO OPPRESS MY FAMILY WITH THESE
INFLATED HIGH COSTS OF EXTORTION
PERPETUATED UPON ME. PLEASE CHANGE
THESE RATES! SOME OF US MAY NEVER
BE FREE AGAIN AND TO HEAR MY MOMS VOICE
ON THE LINE MEANS MORE THAN ANYTHING TO
ME IN THE WORLD.

IM TRYING TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE AND ITS
HARD WHEN THE PUBLIC WONT ACCEPT CALLS
BECAUSE IT KNOWS THE HIGH PRICE ASSOCIATED
WITH ACCEPTING THAT CALL. EVERYONE HAS BEEN
AFFLICTED BY THIS ISSUE. I HOPE YOU WILL
CHANGE THE RATES SOON AND IN CONSIDERATION
OF OUR DEPLETED STAGGERING ECONOMY.

perpetually
INNOCENT

Randy WATTERSON
#0427985

P.O. BOX 280
POLKTON, N.C.

28135

Received & Inspected

ITC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Tuesday

NOVEMBER 27, 2012

DEAR CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI,

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket 96-123).

The reason I'm writing you is to ask you to help bring down the exorbitant rates for phone calls made by prisoners.

I've been in the BOP for (13) years. And in the past I couldn't make phone calls cause of the high rates.

Birthdays and holidays came around and I couldn't call my family. My communication with my family is my number one priority.

Thank you very much MR. GENACHOWSKI for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Manis Escobedo

#26450-077

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

MATTHEW P. DUMONT, M.D.
31 WILLOW STREET
BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS 02478
TELEPHONE: (617) 489-2126

11/26/12

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

As a psychiatrist who has been involved with prison mental health issues I have become impressed with how the exorbitant and exploitive rates of phone calls to and from prisons reduce the contact between prisoners and their families with consequences for their mental health which are profound.

Please take this into consideration when addressing the Wright Petition (C.C. Docket 96-128).

Respectfully

Matthew P. Dumont

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dortell Williams
H-45771 / A2-206
P.O. Box 4430
Lancaster, CA 93539

November 25, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
444 - 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Unfair practices of Global Telink in prison systems

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

While I have written before sharing complaints about the unfair practices of Global Telink, I now have their written changes and, still, I think they are unfair.

Enclosed you will find their demands to their literal "captive audience." Indeed, we are given no alternatives, unable to chose as consumers (nor our families) and stuck with very "unique" treatment.

Not only do I urge you to curtail their interstate pricing and practices, but I also urge you to make an attempt at incentivizing our legislature to also place restraints on these practices, as New York did.

As I close, I'll state for the record that I do realize that your powers are limited, to a degree in this matter, but we ask for whatever you can do to allievate our victimization.

Best regards,



Dortell

P.S. It should also be noted that when my friend called Global Tel Link to inquire more deeply, they refused to give a specific estimate of connection fees, or by the minute charges. Yet they want us to commit to a contract.

INMATE/WARD TELEPHONE SYSTEM

ACCOUNT CHANGE EFFECTIVE November 26, 2012

Effective November 26th, 2012, the Global Tel*Link (GTL) Direct Billed Account will no longer be in operation. As such, all Direct Billed accounts must be transitioned to a new **GTL AdvancePay®** prepaid account.

It is GTL's intention to make this transition as efficient and transparent as possible, so there will be no requirement to fax or mail any type of billing name or address for verification.

New AdvancePay® Account

An AdvancePay account must be established between **November 15th and November 25th, 2012** in order to avoid an interruption in service. An account can be established by going to www.offenderconnect.com (and selecting GTL AdvancePay) or dialing GTL's AdvancePay® automated system, at 1-866-607-6006. If a GTL AdvancePay account has not been established and **funded by November 26th**, GTL will establish an unfunded account for existing Direct Billed Accounts, but calls cannot be received until the account is funded.

The AdvancePay® account can be funded by using a MasterCard or Visa branded credit or debit card at www.offenderconnect.com or by calling GTL's AdvancePay® automated system, at 1-866-607-6006. The OffenderConnect website and GTL's AdvancePay automated system allows you to make deposits with a \$5 minimum. Deposits may also be made to an account with a credit card by calling Global Tel*Link Customer Service at 1-888-415-0377 or with a check/money order mailed to Global Tel*Link AdvancePay®, P O BOX 911722, Denver, CO 80291-1722.

Should you have any questions regarding your new Global Tel*Link **AdvancePay®** account, please call **GTL's Customer Service Center at 1-888-415-0377** or go to website at www.offenderconnect.com. You can also go to www.gtl.net for more information.

Si tienes alguna pregunta sobre su nuevo Tel Global * cuenta de enlace AdvancePay®, Customer Service Center de llamada GTL al 1-888-415-0377 or vaya al sitio Web en www.offenderconnect.com. También puede ir a www.gtl.net para obtener más información.

Global Tel*Link

Customer Service
1-888-415-0377

PO BOX 011722
Denver, CO 80291-1722
www.gtl.com

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Letter to be mailed on Oct 26th to Customers - CA DOCs

GTL Inmate Communication Services
Global Tel*Link Advance Pay
Box 911722
Denver, CO 80291-1722
www.gtl.net

Date

First Name Last Name
123 Anywhere Street
Happytown, ST 20202

Current Account number: xxxx-xxxxxxxxxx

New GTL Account Number: (XXX)XXX-XXXX

Dear Valued Customer:

Effective November 26th, 2012, the mechanisms used for your Global Tel*Link Direct Billed Account will no longer be in operation. As such, you will need to transition your Direct Billed account to a new **GTL AdvancePay®** prepaid account. Your new **AdvancePay®** account will be identified by your **ten digit telephone number** on which you are currently receiving calls.

It is our intention to make this transition as efficient and transparent as possible, so there will be no requirement to fax or mail any type of billing name or address for verification. **However, you must establish an AdvancePay account between November 15th and November 25th, 2012 in order to avoid an interruption in service.** You can establish your account by going to www.offenderconnect.com (and selecting GTL AdvancePay) or dialing GTL's AdvancePay® automated system, at 1-866-607-6006. If you have not established and funded a GTL AdvancePay account by November 26th, GTL will establish an unfunded account for you, **but you will not be able to receive calls until your account is funded.**

You can fund your AdvancePay® account using a MasterCard or Visa branded credit or debit card at www.offenderconnect.com or by calling GTL's AdvancePay® automated system, at 1-866-607-6006. The OffenderConnect website and GTL's AdvancePay automated system allows you to make deposits with a \$5 minimum. You may also make deposits to your account with a credit card by calling **Global Tel*Link Customer Service at 1-888-415-0377** or with a check/money order mailed to **Global Tel*Link AdvancePay®, P O BOX 911722, Denver, CO 80291-1722.**

As added conveniences, you will be able to view your monthly statement, see your balance, or manage your phone numbers online 24 hours a day at www.offenderconnect.com, or you can hear your balance by calling GTL's automated system at 1-866-607-6006.

You will receive a final direct bill Invoice for the billing period of October 26th - November 25th. If on January 3rd, you have a balance due on this account, Global Tel Link will transfer any balance owed on the deactivated Direct Billed account to your new GTL AdvancePay account.

Should you have any questions regarding your new Global Tel*Link **AdvancePay®** account, please call **GTL's Customer Service Center at 1-888-415-0377** or go to website at www.offenderconnect.com. You can also go to www.gtl.net for more information.

Si tienes alguna pregunta sobre su nuevo Tel Global * cuenta de enlace AdvancePay®, Customer Service Center de llamada GTL al 1-888-415-0377 or vaya al sitio Web en www.offenderconnect.com. También puede ir a www.gtl.net para obtener más información.

Thank you for your business,

Global Tel*Link Inmate Communication Services

Cedric Ah Sing #A0112164
C.C.A. / Saguaro Corr. Ctr.
1250 E. Arica Road
Eloy, Arizona 85131-9622

November 23, 2012

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: "Prison Phone Rates"

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

This is a public comment for CC Docket # 96-128 (The wright - petition). I am an inmate from Honolulu, Hawai'i, presently incarcerated in Eloy, Arizona at the Saguaro Correctional Center. This is my thirty second year of incarceration. Within these 32 years myself and my family have spent thousands upon thousands of dollars on phone calls. When my money ran out and the only job I could get paid only .25 an hour, our conversations got less and less. Our relationship seemed like it dwindled. We are normally poor people living on a small island, but traveling from one end of the island to the other just for a 45 minute visit was out of the question, expensive on gasoline, and hard on the family; especially when they didn't have a car! My family members were not writers, so our means of communication were limited, few and far apart! I haven't seen my mother for 13 years at this time, and on a Christmas day I had a visit, it was my mom, and her mom (my grandmother). We had a good visit for 45 minutes, they left, and I was returned to my housing unit, an hour later I was told by the Staff that I had an emergency phone call that I had to pay for. It was my grandmother, my mom's mom, my mom had a heart attack fell down some stairs and died. Last time I'd see her, last time we'd talked, last time we'd share a prison phone bill. Several years went by, I had another emergency phone call to pay for, a younger brother playing with a gun shot himself point blank in the head with a 9mm handgun, died in the helicopter medevac. It was my 1 birthday!

Couple of years later an older brother committed suicide, thought he could fly, and jumped off of a high rise apartment building in Waikiki, Honolulu, Hawaii. When my grandma, my mom's mother died, I wasn't told about it because my family couldn't afford the phone bill. I found out a month later through a letter from my niece, that killed me because I was really close to my grandma. The list goes on and on, Through these expensive phone calls I've learned of a girlfriend burning to death in a car accident, I mean the list goes on and on, I'm surprised I'm still sane. On top of it all who pays to hear bad news, bad news that breaks your heart, the worst was recently, when one day I was reading the Prison Legal News, October 2012 Issue, Page 20, titled: "The Price to call home", by; Drew Kukorouisk. At the time, we were at the Saguaro Correctional Center in Eloy, Arizona under Corrections Corporation of America were using the prison phone contract company I. C. Solutions. A week after reading this P.L.N. article, A memo was posted on the bulletin board in our living quarters that C.C.A./Saguaro Corr. Cntr. will be changing phone companies from I.C. Solutions to Global Tel * Link we pay higher prices, taxes, and have poor service, the call hangs up at times before the 60 Second warning, you can't hear the phone ringing, and if no one answers, the recordings tells you that your call was not accepted instead of there was no answer! everything about these prison telephone industries is criminal. We / I pray that something can be done to lower or stop the outrageous prison phone prices! Thank you for your time and assistance in this matter.

Dated: Eloy, Arizona November 25, 2012

Happy Holidays.
Respectfully Submitted;
Cedric Ah Sing
Cedric Ah Sing. Inmate

Andrew McCullough #20483
Maryland Correctional Training
Center
18800 Roxbury Road
Hagerstown, Maryland 21746

November 26, 2012

Received & Inspected

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

RE: "This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket #96-128)."

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Hopefully my letter to you will serve in support of others convicted as myself and their families being subjected to the extremely abusive telephone rates exploiting me and my family alike.

I've been incarcerated approximately 25 yrs., or since December (1988), and I've not only witnessed but experienced the revolution of change in telephone monopoly by various phone giants and private entities. My family, primarily my mother and daughter has suffered the unjust affects in phone rates as myself being incarcerated.

As a prisoner my monthly pay wage is \$18.00, and I must choose between submitting a \$10.60 Inmate Money Voucher to Inmate Finance/Business Office in order to call and speak with my mother, siblings, nieces, and nephews or purchasing, hygienic items from the commissary to carry through the current month until the next months pay roll. My daughter turned 21 yrs. old in October 2012, speaking with her over the phone is out of the question since she lives out of state, I definitely cannot afford the phone rates.

I haven't had a telephone conversation with my daughter since she was 5 yrs. old and the phone rates sky rocketed. I have loss complete contact with other family members do to the high phone rates and all the restrictions attached to the phone services. Some times months passes by before I can speak with my mom or a family member until either myself or mother my sacrifice \$40.00 + \$6.00 interest every so often to place on the phone for me to call at .30 cents a minute, (\$9.00 half hrs.) I thank you for your interest and concern in this prompt matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew McCullough EC
Andrew McCullough #204083

Timothy O'Keefe, T-10500
P.O. Donovan Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 777004
San Diego, CA 92177-7004

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

November 27, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Genachowski:

I saw a page in Prison Legal News that was urging people to write to you over the injustices of the phone rates families and friends pay to accept calls from us prisoners.

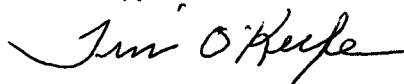
I'm NOT only going to write to you about this, but also about what Global Tel Link is now doing to insure that they get their money from California prisoner families and friends who accept collect calls from us. If by November 27, 2012, whoever I wish to call does not set up a pre-paid account with Global Tel Link, they will place a block on that phone. This is creating a huge hardship for some of the people I call, not because they do not have the money to pay the bill, but because they just do not have the time to do this, and also think it is unfair. My brother refuses to do this as he is afraid of getting ripped off by Global Tel Link, and I in a way do not blame him.

I am requesting that you and your commission please investigate what Global Tel Link is doing with the way they are enforcing their policies and practices with the phones here in the California prisons. It is like they have a monopoly on the phone system here in the California prisons. Is this legal? Is the fact the the Calif. Dept. of Corrections contracting with Global Tel Link knowing these problems with Global Tel Link also legal? I think they are in this together, and it isn't right.

I would GREATLY APPRECIATE it if you would PLEASE respond to this at your earliest possible convenience addressing the issues raised herein.

Thank you for your time & attention to these matters.

Sincerely,



Timothy O'Keefe

cc: file/tok

Villacres, C.D. H-00324
CSP Solano
POB 4000; 23; 1-1L
Cacaville, CA 95696-4000

Received & Inspected

DEC -3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Mr. Julius Genachowski
FCC For Public Comments-Complaints
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Ref: Global Tel-Link Extortion Scam

Dear Sir:

I have been incarcerated for 23 years and relatives or friends who have accepted the telephone charges from any prison catering telephone company have always complained of the criminally outrageous phone charges especially those who were living on a fixed income!

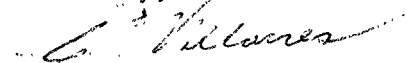
Juxtaposed to the embezzlement scam which has carried on for years it has now culminated to a more fraudulent level with "their charges" compounded by constant interruptions every five minutes or so with the inane recording informing the called party that the call is coming from an inmate in a correctional facility as if the called party does not already know this tidbit of information! This is particularly annoying when trying to discuss a legal matter with an attorney or relating important information to a loved one to take care of an issue for one's self.

Whenever a person signs up for telephone service from a company, that person signs a contract for that service. On what legal basis does this Global Tel-Link have to block calls, institute fraudulent charges without complying with any contract to do so?

This company's subterfuge has many other deficiencies of which it is getting away with. Has the FCC authorized such a fraud and/or would congress allow this charade to continue?

Consequently, my question to you is, "WHAT IS THE FCC GOING TO DO ABOUT THIS OUTRAGE IF ANY?" or will concerned citizens just receive another form letter common to all agencies. Be assured that this complaint is going to local congressmen at first!

Sincerely,



Charles D. Villacres

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

This is a public Comment for the
Wright Petition (CC Docket 96-128)

11/26/12

To: Chairman Julius Genachowski;
Federal Communications Commission

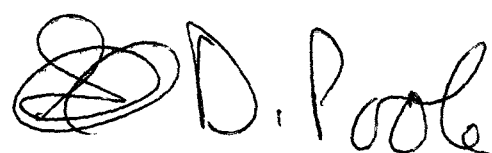
Can you please put a cap
or limit on the rates for long
distance phone rates. The high rates
are hindering prisoners like my self
from calling family out of state and
breaking family ties causing me to endure
more punishment. The phone calls
mean alot during the Holiday season.
As they do all year.

Cont.

The high phone rates punish the prisoners and the prisoners family trying to pay the phone bill,

Thank you in advance for your time and effort concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

D. Poole

Stephan D. Poole # 94A2007
Upstate C.F.
P.O. Box 2001
Malone, NY 12953

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room 11/26/2012

Mister Chairman J. Genochowski,

Please Excuse This Delay Of Your Busy Daily Schedule But I'm Writing To Express My Frustration At The Exorbitant Prices That Phone Companies Charge The Most Downtrodden - Prison Inmates.

I Do Not Call My Family Because Of The Ridiculous Prices To Make A Simple Collect Call. I Really Would Love Nothing More Than To Hear The Voice Of My Mother But It Seems I Might Have To Wait Till I'm Released Which Is 5 Years Away...

Now I'm Not Advocating "Free For All" Phone Access For All Inmates. Rather, I'd Humbly Like To Ask With All Due Respect Mr. Genochowski That You Possibly Consider Implementing Some Sort Of Cap (Maximum Charge) Phone Companies Charge Inmates (Rather Their Families) Or A Competitive Pricing Plan So That All Telephone Companies Compete For Inmate Business Instead Of One Company Having A Large Monopoly.

All That Is Beyond Me Sir But I Implore You To Consider The Negative Effects Of These Exorbitant Phone Prices That Are Detrimental To Not Only Inmates But Their Families As Well.

Thank-You For Your Time And Consideration Sir.
Have A Good Day And Enjoy Your Holidays.

Sincerely,
Steven Magallon
11

Received & Inspected

Sam Phum (FF-7890)
SCI Mahanoy
301 Morea Rd
Prackville, PA 17932

DEC -3 2012

11/27/12

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Public Comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket No. 96-128)

Dear Genachowski,

I want to make a comment on the high rate phone service that the Phone Company are charges us inmates. Majority of the inmates don't have money or any support from their family members, and if a inmate do have a job in the institution, the pay rate is between 1.17 to 2.42 per hour. Each phone call is \$5.25 per 15 minutes (in State calls), and \$1.60 for local calls. However, majority of the inmate population are housed outside of their hometown due to security purposes and therefor we paid the \$5.25 rate to talk to our family members.

I am fortunate that I have some kind of support from my family members and I still find it difficult to choose between buying the necessity or call my family members on their birthdays. Not being able to call my peoples at a low rate has impacted me and my family members and put a strain on our relationship.

Please, Chairman Julius can you look into this matter and see that the Phone Companies are not taking advantage of the prison population in the state of PA and the Nation by charging us with high and unreasonable rates.

Truly yours



SAM PHUM (FF-7890)

cc.

Timothy Pierce
807 Cushing Rd
Warren, Maine
04864

11/27/12

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski

This is a public comment for CC Docket
96-128 (The Wright Petition).

The telephone system which inmates and
their families are limited to using is owned by
the states prison system; The Maine Dept. of Corrections.
This privately held phone system charges thirty cents
a minute, in addition to connection fees when
collect calls are placed.

Maine is a very poor state, inmates and
their families are at the bottom of this socio-
economic community. Many in Maine are
illiterate which makes telephone communication
the only viable form of contact. These extremely
high phone rates (three cents a minute is what a
land line connection normally costs) are a terrible
burden to families, and an unjust method of
creating an income stream. Certainly there are
extra costs involved in a prison phone system,
but a ten fold increase is unfair. Please help.

Sincerely



My name is Larry Covington #358482 I am currently at
Turney Center Prison and Farm. I would like to correct
the outrageous phone call prices. They want us to
leave cell phones alone but they charge us \$20.00 or
more for me just to call home to Knoxville. I've tried
to get moved closer to home so it would be cheaper
on me but no one wants to help me so I'm pretty
much left with no choice besides buy a cell phone
because I'm also having very bad family problems so
I have to call and check on my father a few times
a day because he is bad off and cancer is about
to kill him. So with my father sick, they want
move me closer to home so the calls will be a little
cheaper and the calls costing me so much I'm so
much better off to buy a cell phone for a few hundred
dollars. If it just lasts me one month it's saved me
money and helped me keep in touch with my father. I'm
not going to pay \$16 to \$20 dollars twice a day to
call and check on my father. I'll always buy a cell phone
until they either move me closer to home or drop
the phone prices.

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Scary
Brewster

NOVEMBER 26, 2012

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR DOCKET
96-128 (THE WRIGHT PETITION)

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

DEAR CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI

MY CONCERN IS ONE OF ECONOMICS AND
ITS APPLICATION TO MY FAMILIES CONTINUING
DIFFICULTY IN BEING ABLE TO AFFORD THE
HIGH COST OF PRISON PHONE SERVICE PROVIDED BY
"GLOBAL TEL LINK."

IT IS INTERESTING THAT WE DO NOT HAVE
A CHOICE IN SELECTING A PHONE SERVICE, NOR DO
WE HAVE ANY INPUT INTO THE FEE STRUCTURE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST

C. LEE TAYLOR AM0309

14-15-1 SOLANO II

P.O. BOX 4000

VALACVILLE, CA 95696-4000

Peter D. Mills #99627
807 Cushing Rd
Warren, Maine 04864

Maine State Prison

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for CC Docket #96-128

Dear Chairman Genachowski

As a resident of the Maine State Prison-Warren, since September 2007, I have spent over six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) on my phone calls to my family. With this huge amount of money, there has not been one month that I did not run out of minutes before the end of the month. I have to say "I'm sorry but I have to hang up now" to my loved ones hundreds of times.

In Maine, standard land line charges are \$.03 a minute, here we are charged \$.30 a minute in addition to connection fees. I realize a prison phone system has costs not normal to phone use, but to mark up that much is simply punitive, and unfair in one of the poorest states in the nation.

Please help us correct this injustice, this is an inappropriate way to raise revenue. Thank you.

Sincerely Yours

Peter D. Mills

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

Edward Harper

MOE #168276

MCCF-C-3-30

P.O.B. 5188

Holly Springs, Miss.

38635

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: This is a public comment for CC Docket #96-128;
The Wright Petition

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am an inmate in the mississippi penal system and am currently housed in a private for profit facility where nothing happens without the inmate being price gouged. This includes the phone service provided without access to competitive alternatives.

I am a Senior Citizen therefore the price gouging includes gouging the elderly. Also as my circle of friends and loved ones are all over 60 years of age it again gouges the elderly.

On the system available to us it costs our family a \$15⁰⁰ service charge to put \$40⁰⁰ on the pre-paid system. In addition there is a \$2.10 connection fee and a .24 cent

per minute charge.

The call is often dis-connected during the first three minutes and an additional \$2.10 charge is applied to reconnect.

In the free world I had a pre-paid Tropic phone and I could call virtually anywhere for .10 per minute, with no premium for putting money on my phone and no connection fees.

I have not been able to talk to my friends for over two years on the phone as all are on fixed incomes and the prices are much too high to afford.

Please help do something about this license to commit theft from the incarcerated.

Thanks,

Edward Hooper

EH

Mr. Gremozowski

RE: This is a Public Comment For CC docket # 96-128

I Am writing to your office in hopes to correct some wrong that has been allowed to go on here in Mississippi. I am being housed here at MCLF Holly Springs Ms.

The Corruption that we must fight on a daily basis is unbelievable. For years here at MCLF, inmates could not call home because they were forced to have a AT&T wall phone. People who were transferred here from other facilities their families did not have wall phones because they were able to call to cell phones at other facilities.

The inmates family did not have the money to pay for the deposit which was a 500 dollars amount. Inmates stayed here for years and could not talk to their families.

I filed a Civil Action 42 USC 1983 for damages because the people what few there were was forced to pay for a wall phone bill every month, where the rest of the MDOC inmates did not face the extra cost. I am now appealing my Civil Action in the 5th Circuit New Orleans. Even the Federal Court here in Mississippi will not help with what this corrupt prison system is allowed to get away with.

We have now been burden with more corruption and have a Keefe Phone system. The Canteen is allowed to raise the prices of items 2 or 3 times a year. To put 40 dollars on your phone account they want to charge you 55 dollars - 15 dollars for hook up.

There is enough to warrant a criminal investigation on what has been allowed to go on. We go to bed hungry every night for profit (forced) we have no help. My Federal Case No. # 3:11 CV 149-A-S
Go to back Federal law suit

I hope that this letter will help us out in some way
IF the Public was made aware of the truth and the
Facts of what is Really going on it would warrant Federal
time in Prison For The MDoc Commissioner and these Private Prisons
We Pay over a 300% PerCent Mark up on Canteen items From
Keefee And the other states who has Keefee Pay less than half

It WAS order in by the Governor who brother-in-law has the
Contract. There are laws to Protect People From these types of
Corruption but not in Mississippi.

Thank You For your time on this matter.

Respectfully Submitted
Doug Fridan #3982
833 West St
Holly Springs Ms 38635

Monday, November 26, 2012

EUGENE BLAKE #626.901
CHILICOTHE Correctional Institution
15802 S.R. 104-NORTH
CHILICOTHE, OHIO 45601-5500
Received & Inspected

CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PUBLIC COMMENTS
445 12TH STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

DEC -3 2012

FCC Mail Room

RE: THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS THAT OHIO PRISON PHONE COMPANIES
HAS AND ITS ABUSIVE PRACTICES AND HOW THEY EXPLOIT PRISONERS
AND THEIR FAMILIES

DEAR CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI:

THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CC DOCKET # 96-128
[THE WRIGG PETITION].

IT IS MY IDEAL REQUEST FOR PRISON PHONE JUSTICE. I AM
URGING THE FCC TO CAP THE HIGH COSTS OF INTER STATE
PRISON PHONE CALLS. BECAUSE OF THE EXORBITANT PHONE RATES
THAT MY FAMILY AND I ARE FORCED TO PAY TO COMMUNICATE
BY TELEPHONE IS UNFAIR. MY SISTER SUFFERS FROM HEART
PROBLEMS, THE ONLY FAMILY MEMBER STILL LIVING. BECAUSE OF THE
HIGH COST OF PHONE CALLS, I'M UNABLE TO SPEAK WITH HER MY
SISTER IS 65 YEARS OF AGE. IF THE PHONE RATES FOR INTER STATE
PRISON PHONE CALLS WERE THE SAME AS FOR THOSE IN FREE
SOCIETY, WE COULD COMMUNICATE. TELEPHONE CALLS ARE THE ONLY
WAY TO COMMUNICATE.

IT IS TIME FOR THE FCC TO TAKE ACTION ON THE ISSUE
OF HIGH PRISON PHONE RATES. RESEARCH SHOWS THAT REGULAR
CONTACT BETWEEN PRISONERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS DURING INCARCERATION
REDUCES RECIDIVISM. I HOPE YOU CAN SEE THAT THE PRACTICE OF
PRISON PHONE PRICE GOUGING AFFECTS THE PRISONER'S FAMILY AND SOCIETY
AS A WHOLE IN A WAY THAT OUTWEIGHS ANY JUSTIFICATION PUT
FORTH BY PRISON OFFICIALS. ALL THEY CARE ABOUT IS THE
KICK-BACKS

Sincerely

Eugene Blake

EUGENE BLAKE #626.901

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

MARK Williams
Jr3416

SCI-Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

November 6, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

**THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION
CC DOCKET #96-128**

Chairman Genachowski:

I'm writing in response to your fight to lower the high cost of phone calls from prisoners.

I'm incarcerated at SCI-Greene, Greene County, Pennsylvania. For me to call home (in-state) is \$5.41 through a pre-paid calling card sold in the prison commissary and \$6.00 to call collect (both 15 minute calls). This is simply too much money for most of my family, my support network, to afford. I have very limited contact with my family due to the excessive cost of these phone calls.

Recently, Pennsylvania transferred more than 1,000 inmates to Michigan due to overcrowding. Phone calls from MI to PA were only \$1.80 for the same 15 minute call. these are the same phone calls I try to make from Pennsylvania but can't afford, but in Michigan they were 70% cheaper. I don't understand how rates from MI to PA are 30% of the cost we pay in PA for in-state calls.

There are too many people that I can't call because they can't afford the cost. These are the same family members and friends whose support I need to have a successful reentry into society upon my release, but I'm losing my relationships with them due to the lack of interaction and contact.

I hope something can be done because it seems like all the phone company (GTL) and Department of Corrections do is take advantage of our situation.

Sincerely,

Mark Williams

RETURN TO CONSUMER

EXHIBIT "A"



June 08, 2012



JUDITH MALDONADO
#9H
6 WEST FARMS PLAZA
BRONX, NY 10460

2945

ILN: H2044690228381

Dear Postal Customer:

A copy of the money order per your PS Form 6401 Money Order Inquiry is below.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE		POSTAL MONEY ORDER	
Serial Number	Year, Month, Day	Post Office	U.S. Dollars and Cents
19869521275	2012-02-06	104602	\$20.00
Amount		TWENTY DOLLARS & 00c	
Pay to the order of		Clerk	
VAC.2430			
PO BOX 122430		Judith maldonado 0009	
Dallas Texas 753122430		6 West Farms Plaza Apt 9H	
Memo		sing sing 10460	
© 2009 United States Postal Service All Rights Reserved		SEE REVERSE WARNING • NEGOTIABLE ONLY IN THE U.S. AND POSSESSIONS	
000008002		19869521275	

MONEY ORDER

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE		POSTAL MONEY ORDER	
Serial Number	Year, Month, Day	Post Office	U.S. Dollars and Cents
19869521275	2012-02-06	104602	\$20.00
Amount		TWENTY DOLLARS & 00c	
Pay to the order of		Clerk	
VAC.2430			
PO BOX 122430		Judith maldonado 0009	
Dallas Texas 753122430		6 West Farms Plaza Apt 9H	
Memo		sing sing 10460	
© 2009 United States Postal Service All Rights Reserved		SEE REVERSE WARNING • NEGOTIABLE ONLY IN THE U.S. AND POSSESSIONS	
000008002		19869521275	

BACK OF MONEY ORDER SHOWING IT WAS CASHED

If you have any additional concerns or questions, write to us at the address indicated below and enclose a copy of your customer receipt and this letter.

ACCOUNTING SERVICE CENTER
GENERAL ACCOUNTING BRANCH
PO BOX 82428
ST. LOUIS, MO 63182-2428

1-866-974-2733



EXHIBIT "B"

Money Order Inquiry

(Please Use Black Ink ONLY and Print Within the Boxes.)

Inquiry may be filed at any Post Office™ any time after the purchase of the money order. Use one form per money order serial number. A separate form and fee are required for each money order inquiry. To obtain a copy of a cashed money order or to receive a refund, complete ALL blocks in this section, provide a signature, and present the customer receipt to the Post Office for verification. A refund will be issued no sooner than 60 days from the money order issue date provided the money order has not been cashed.

Money Order Serial No. (As shown on original receipt)

19869521275

Date on Original Receipt (MM-DD-YYYY)

02062012

Post Office No. (As shown on original receipt)

104602

Money Order Amount

20.00

Purchaser's First Name (Not for Bank Use)

MI

Purchaser's Last Name

Judith

Maldonado

Bank Use or Post Office Only (Bank/Financial Institution Name or Post Office)

Mailing Address (For mailing refund, correspondence, or copies)

6 West Farms Sq

Apt. or Suite No.

9H

City

Bronx

State

NY

ZIP+4®

10460

Country (If applicable)

Telephone No. (Include area code)

7189912846

International Telephone No. (If applicable)

011

ABA No. - Bank Use Required

Reference No. - Bank or Post Office Use Only

Certification and Signature

I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties). I agree to repay the Postal Service™, upon demand, the amount of the refund if the designated payee, purchaser, or financial institution cashes the original money order. The rights and remedies set forth in 18 USC 287, 18 USC 1001, and 31 USC 3802 shall be incorporated as if fully set forth.

Signature of Customer Filing the Money Order Inquiry

For Postal Use Only

Date Signed (MM-DD-YYYY)

Judith Maldonado

9999999999

06052012

Privacy Act statement: Your information will be used to respond to your request. Collection is authorized by 39 USC 401, 403, and 404; 31 USC 5318, 5325, and 5331. Providing the information is voluntary, but if not provided, we may not process your transaction. We do not disclose your information to third parties without your consent, except to facilitate the transaction, to act on your behalf or request, or as legally required. This includes the following limited circumstances: to a congressional office on your behalf; to financial entities regarding financial transaction issues; to a US Postal Service auditor; to entities, including law enforcement, as required by law including anti-money laundering statutes and regulations, or in legal proceedings; and to contractors and other entities aiding us to fulfill the service (service providers). For more information regarding our privacy policy visit us at usps.com.

**POST OFFICE: AFFIX STAMPS
OR METER STRIP HERE**

Mail to:

**SCANNING AND IMAGING CENTER
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
PO BOX 9001
SIOUX FALLS SD 57117-9001**

After an inquiry has been filed, you may obtain status by calling our toll-free number 1-866-974-2733.

This Area Is for Official Use Only

By presence of this signature, I have verified the customer receipt presented by the purchaser.

Customer's Photo ID No.

ID Type: e.g., Drivers License or State Issued ID, Military ID, Alien Registration, Passport

Finance No. of Accepting Office

ZIP Code™

Telephone No. (include area code)

No-Fee Money Order Serial No. (If applicable)

Date (MM-DD-YYYY)

Amount

Post Office ID

Signature of Postal Service Employee

Date Inquiry Filed (MM-DD-YYYY)

RETURN TO CONSUMER

EXHIBIT "C"



HOME

SERVICES

CONTACTS

SIGN UP

FAQ

TERMS AND AGREEMENT

GENERAL

Prior to signing up for the VAC V-Connect service you must read the following information and agree to the policies and requirements as stated below. You are acknowledging that you are the legal owner of the telephone account listed above and are authorized to make changes to service utilizing the credit/debit card payment selected above. By clicking on the "Accept" button you are stating that you have read the requirement guidelines below and have agreed to the Value Added Communication policy as stated.

For every credit card transaction (credit/debit card) there will be a \$7.95 processing fee deducted from the payment, with the exception of Dallas County. For all money order and cashier checks mailed to VAC, Dept. 2430, P.O. Box 122430, Dallas, Texas 75267-8517, there will be no transaction fees applied. After 180 days of no account activity a monthly inactivity fee of \$4.95 will be assessed. As a one time courtesy, funds will be transferred from one account to another at no charge, any additional fund transfer requests will be denied and a new account will have to be established.

1-800-913-6097 VAC#No.

[Contact Us](#) | [Our Services](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Terms and Agreement](#)

Copyright © Value-Added Communications, Inc. 2007

Bulletin Copy
Please Leave

RETURN TO CONSUMER

EXHIBIT "D"

Approved
on all locations
J. J. [Signature]
10/23

NOTICE TO INMATE POPULATION

Over the next few months the Department will be installing a new inmate telephone system at each facility. Once the new system is installed the cost of a phone call will be much lower than what it is today. The new rate will be less than a nickel (\$.048) per minute and there will no longer be any connect fees. The chart below shows a comparison of the new and old rate for a typical twenty minute call.

Description	Old Rate	New Rate
Set-up fee per call	\$1.28	\$0.00
Charge per minute	\$0.68	\$0.048
Cost of a 20 minute call	\$2.64	\$0.96

The State law that was passed in 2007 permanently eliminates commissions on inmate calls. This law further stipulates that our phone contract must allow for collect and pre-paid calling services. Both of these services will be included in the new contract, but inmates will not be offered debit cards within a facility.

Please inform your friends and families of the switch in telephone service providers from GTL to Unisys. The Unisys Corporation along with Value Added Communications, Inc. will be the new inmate phone provider; however, they will **NOT** be responsible for refunding any remaining funds from Global Tel Link accounts. After the telephone system has been completely cut over at this site from GTL to Unisys, your friends and families may obtain a refund from Global Tel Link by calling 1-866-230-7761.

Before you can complete your first call on the new system, you will be prompted to record your name so that it can be used to announce you on future calls. The first time you call each of the numbers on your allowed list, the system will attempt to complete the call and bill it as a collect call on the called party's phone bill. If the call cannot be completed because there is no billing arrangement with the called party's telephone company or for some other restriction, the system will offer **one** free 60-second phone call. An automated system will interrupt the call after the 60 seconds and allow the called party to set up a pre-paid account so that future calls may go through.

If there are any problems or questions your friends or family may have after the switch of providers, they can contact Value Added Communications (VAC) at 1-800-777-2522 or on the internet at www.myvconnect.com. If your friend or family member sets up a prepaid account with VAC, he or she can review, manage, and fund the account via the 800 number or the internet address.

RETURN TO CONSUMER

This is a Public Comment for the Wright Petition
(CC Docket #96-128)

Received & Inspected

DEC 03 2012

FCC Mail Room

November 24, 2012

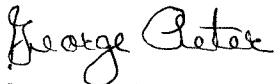
Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing this letter as a public comment with respect to the Above-mentioned petition, which seeks to have the FCC cap the excessively high costs of telephone calls from prisoners to their families.

I have been incarcerated since 1967, in the Illinois Department of Corrections; my family resides in Wisconsin. My father is an 89 year old retired WWII veteran; I am his only child. With the exception of one yearly visit (when his health permits) the only way in which we can maintain contact is via the telephone. However, as every \$10.00 phone bill to him results in the IDOC receiving a "rebate" of \$5.60 from the phone company, our calls are extremely limited. Quite frankly, this does not pass the "sniff test"; why should this cost be impressed upon my father, other than for the fact that the IDOC requires us to use one particular phone company, which in turn "kicks back" the 56% to the IDOC. I strongly urge you to mandate that this gouging of prisoners' families be brought to a halt.

Sincerely,



George Peter, Jr.
#C-01434
Hill Corr. Center
Box 1700
Galesburg, IL 61401

To: Federal Communications Commission
Consumer Center
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

DEC 03 2012

FCC Mail Room

November 21, 2012

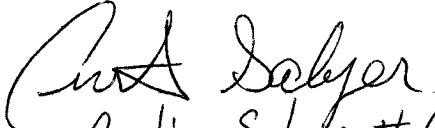
From: Curtis Salyer
140786, D.C.C.C./G
P.O. Box 220
Hominy, OK 74635-0220

Re: Informal Complaint on Global Tel Link

I am an offender in Oklahoma prison system, in the great state of Oklahoma! I arrived at Dick Conner Correctional Center on June 28, 2012, I arrived approx. 1:30 Am woke up the next morning and attempted to call my 82 yr. old mother, not so! when I dialed the phone on my unit I was told by a recording "I had exceeded my minutes for calling that number 918-425-0208 or 918-521-5860, how can that be I had just arrived 7 hours before I first called. My mother had to do a pre-paid calling system before I could complete a call.

her phone. My mother has (2) two phones with
different phone company's one is with AT&T
and the other I don't know for sure I think
its got to do with the Veterans spousal
phone system. They are other offenders here
at D.C.C.C. that their families have AT&T and
they don't have to do a pre-paid hook-up to
have phone calls. What I am asking for is allow
my mother's phone number be approved, for me
to call her collect. She is going blind and
I need to keep in touch with her.
If you cannot help us please inform me on
who to contact for assistants.

Sincerely Thankful


Curtis Salyer #140786

To: GTL; Global Tel Link
AdvancePay Service Dept.
Department 1722
Denver, Colorado 80291-1722

October 23, 2012

From: Curtis Salyer
140786, DCCC/G
P O Box 220
Hominy, OK 74635-0220

Re: Phone Billing System

To Whom,

I would like to know how it is that your company has to charge an 82 year old woman (mother) a prepaid fee to call her son. My mother Ms. Loma McFee has never been a person who doesn't pay her bills yet, this company you call a business is ripping people (elderly) off by making them pay a prepaid fee.

I want to say that once I arrived here at D.C.C.C. on June 28, 2012 the first thing I did was call my mother "not", because your company put an automatic

(1)

block on me calling my mother naughty, naughty. She has ATT on one of her (2) two phones, then she has the Veterans discount phone system on her other phone.

Please tell me why is your business run on such a scamless system as it is? I thought Veterans spouse's were treated with respect? Your company charged \$50.00 for (12) twelve calls plus, out of the \$50.00 you charged \$9.00 for hook-up fees, what a racket you have going. I am not threatening your company in any way but I will be forwarding a letter to the: FCC, Consumer Center at 445 12th St, SW, Washington, DC 20554. Your company didn't know anything about my mother or myself when the block was placed on my mother's phone. Please explain?

Sincerely,
Curtis Salyer

Curt Salyer

Mr. Bruce X. Cooper, #AY8716,
1100 Pike, St.
Huntingdon, Pa. 16654

22, November 2012 A.D.

Received & Inspected

DEC 03 2012

Dear Mr. GENACHOWSKI:

Sir, I write this brief letter complain, as a prisoner ~~FCC Pennsylvania~~ ^{Prison}, as a prisoner of nearly 20-years of imprisonment, my only means of direct communication with my family and children is by phone, however, that has been recently eliminated, where the phone contracting service provider has eliminated **collect call access**, which was the only means available to me to call my home.

What has occurred is that, if our families don't pay a sir-change up front, the only option is for the inmate to purchase a per-paid phone call in the prison's commissary, or we can't no longer have phone access.

Literally this contracting phone service provider has cornered the market because of my pending situation, by changing extreme prices to make a call, and than eliminating the collect calling system, something that has been operational since 1984' as a means of inmate communication.

Sir this is extortion and bribery under federal Rico Statute, and because it involves convicted prisoners does not make it accessible, but instead a form of cruel and unusual punishment of targeted group..

I ask that you send to me copies of this office's complaint forms upon receipt of this reciprocation.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Bruce X. Cooper

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P. O. BOX 598
CAMP HILL, PA 17001-0598

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

GRIEVANCE NUMBER

OFFICIAL INMATE GRIEVANCE

TO: FACILITY GRIEVANCE COORDINATOR	FACILITY:	DATE:
FROM: (INMATE NAME & NUMBER)	SIGNATURE of INMATE:	
WORK ASSIGNMENT:	HOUSING ASSIGNMENT:	
<p>INSTRUCTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Refer to the DC-ADM 804 for procedures on the inmate grievance system.2. State your grievance in Block A in a brief and understandable manner.3. List in Block B any actions you may have taken to resolve this matter. Be sure to include the identity of staff members you have contacted.		
<p>A. Provide a brief, clear statement of your grievance. Additional paper may be used, maximum two pages (one DC-804 form and one one-sided 8 1/2" x 11" page). <i>State all relief that you are seeking.</i></p>		
<p>B. List actions taken and staff you have contacted, before submitting this grievance.</p>		

Your grievance has been received and will be processed in accordance with DC-ADM 804.

Signature of Facility Grievance Coordinator

Date

Heath Gray

FPO237

SCI-Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Received & Inspected

DEC 03 2012

FCC Mail Room

November 6, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

**THIS IS A PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE WRIGHT PETITION
CC DOCKET #96-128**

Chairman Genachowski:

I'm writing in response to your fight to lower the high cost of phone calls from prisoners.

I'm incarcerated at SCI-Greene, Greene County, Pennsylvania. For me to call home (in-state) is \$5.41 through a pre-paid calling card sold in the prison commissary and \$6.00 to call collect (both 15 minute calls). This is simply too much money for most of my family, my support network, to afford. I have very limited contact with my family due to the excessive cost of these phone calls.

Recently, Pennsylvania transferred more than 1,000 inmates to Michigan due to overcrowding. Phone calls from MI to PA were only \$1.80 for the same 15 minute call. these are the same phone calls I try to make from Pennsylvania but can't afford, but in Michigan they were 70% cheaper. I don't understand how rates from MI to PA are 30% of the cost we pay in PA for in-state calls.

There are too many people that I can't call because they can't afford the cost. These are the same family members and friends whose support I need to have a successful reentry into society upon my release, but I'm losing my relationships with them due to the lack of interaction and contact.

I hope something can be done because it seems like all the phone company (GTL) and Department of Corrections do is take advantage of our situation.

Sincerely,

Heath Gray

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket # 96-128)

I am presently in the Madison Parish Detention Center in Tallulah, La. All calls from this facility are collect. Due to the fact that I am from out of state my calls are \$20 each for 15 minutes.

I recently was at Franklin Parish Detention Center where local calls prepaid were \$3.50 and long distance calls were \$8.95. Each call had a \$2.00 connection fee.

It is simply unrealistic in this day and age to have to pay these excessive fees for a phone call. These excessive fees are an undue burden on family and friends whom are the main supports of the inmate.

I implore the FCC to set guidelines for these "phone companies" or make available the break down of the true cost of a call. Also any payment agreement between the facility involved and the company.

Thank you,

Kevin Logan #20019

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer and Governmental
Affairs Bureau
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

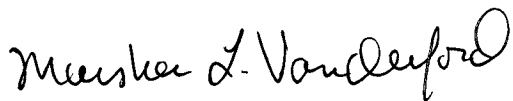
DEC 03 2012

FCC Mail Room

Attached is an opinion/editorial published in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* on November 27, 2012. It describes huge charges for collect calls made by inmates. Allowing companies that run prisons to collude with phone companies to create monopolies on collect calls made by inmates should be illegal. The result of that practice, exorbitant fees for collect calls from inmates to their families and friends, is unjust and counterproductive. Inmates need to sustain contact with their families and communities during incarceration.

I understand that the FCC initiated a process to consider setting price limits for prison phone service charges, and that the FCC is taking input from the public on this topic. Please add this letter to those comments, or please let me know how to provide my input. Charges for phone calls made by inmates should be the same as calls made by anyone else who uses phone service. Inmates owe a debt to society, but they should not be exploited by corporations who profit from their isolation and distance from their families.

Please right this wrong.



Marsha L. Vanderford
2228 Meadowvale Drive
Atlanta GA 30345

Balance

CONSUMER FAIRNESS

Gouging prisoners costs all of society in the end



Mary Sanchez
My Opinion

For two decades now, politicians and public scolds have sold America on the idea of a sterner penal system. Zero tolerance, three strikes and you're out, supermax prisons and legions of young men who have done time — these are the hallmarks of our age.

What's hidden from view is that incarcerating people is big business. The corrections industry often exemplifies the worst aspects of monopoly capitalism.

Just ask Ulandis Forte. He is a construction worker in the Washington, D.C., area, and he is in the forefront of a fight to right an injustice few of us are aware of: the exorbitant rates charged to families who accept phone calls from incarcerated loved ones. A 15-minute call from an inmate can cost

from state to state, but most states take a kick-back from phone companies for every call inmates make, raking in millions of dollars a year. Their take is typically 50 percent to 60 percent. Only a few states and the District of Columbia don't take a cut of the calls.

In 2001, the federal judge hearing the class-action suit ruled the FCC had primary jurisdiction over phone rates, kicking the case into limbo. When Forte was released, he decided to take up the cause his grandmother initiated on his behalf. He lives in a half-way house now and credits his grandmother with instilling his discipline. Without her support, he would have exited prison "more hardened, more cold," he says. She kept him grounded, reading the Bible.

"I don't want anything that has to do with negativity. It has no role in my life," the 38-year-old said.

Ending this kind of price gouging is not cod-

ding inmates. It's consumer fairness. Corporations shouldn't profit from skyrocketing rates on a captive market — one that includes 2.7 million children who have one or more parents in prison. The problem hits minority and poor communities — the people least likely to afford the predatory fees — harder due to their higher rates of incarceration.

Now Forte is the activist. He has met with a member of the FCC and is prominent in a growing coalition of faith leaders and social justice and prison reform advocates.

Forte wants to ensure other inmates have a shot at what he gained by his grandmother's love: the chance to complete their sentences, to restart life productively and to reunite with family members.

It's the best shot parolees have at a crime-free future.

Mary Sanchez, an Opinion columnist, writes for the Kansas City Star.

Mike Luckovich

Bruce DiVincenzo, AP-8215
SCI Fayette
P.O. Box 9999
Labelle, PA 15450-0999
(724)364-2200
December 1, 2012

Received & Inspected
DEC - 3 2012
FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

This is a public comment for CC Docket #96-128 (the Wright Petition)

Sir, I've been incarcerated since 1984 serving an 81-162 year sentence and am sixty years old. I have but only two people left in which I call.

When I phone home to sis, 58-years old in Philadelphia, from one side of the state (intrastate) to the other, a 15-minute collect phone call costs \$6.15 while a pre-paid phone card from here costs about only a dollar less. Just to accept my collect call, the first minute alone costs \$2.27 from Global Tel Link Company.

She works third shift as a waitress and I am fortunate enough that we can talk at least once a month. But that is all because of the high cost that it incurs. People in here are trying "various" questionable legal and illegal ways to reduce this cost by Global Tel Link. I have enclosed a copy of steps what some people choose to do on their computers through "Google" by having their call sent to a local area code rather than a long-distance one. I do not know just how legal this is and have not tried this myself.

Others go about it the usual prison way of bribing an employee by having them bring in and smuggle into the prison a cell phone and charger. ~~This~~ is, of course, for a nominal fee. They really care less whether or not that they get caught considering most here have either a life sentence or a long term sentence and getting a misconduct or an additional street charge for "implements of escape" is not a concern as long as they can talk to their loved ones. I mean really, what can the Dept. of Corrections do?

Perhaps a 90-day stint in the hole but this is not really any sort of deterrent. So, you see no one really comes out ahead here or wins when we are subject to the mercy of Global Tel Link Company or some other company.

Please do something about these high cost rates that we here in the state prisons in Pennsylvania are subject to. I do not know, nor can I speak, for county jails or Federal prisons. Anything you are able to do to reduce the cost would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration in the matter.

Sincerely,

Bruce DiVincenzo

Bruce DiVincenzo, AP-8215

enclosure

P.S. global Tel Link is unscrupulous when it comes to inmates, prisoners, convicts, etc. phone calls!

Copy for Chairman Julius Genachowski

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GOOGLE PHONE ACCOUNT

Go to website www.google.com

At the top click on 'Gmail'

After signing up for Gmail click on 'show me my account'

At the top of the webpage click on 'more' and then click on 'even more>>'

On the right side of the menu click on 'voice'

Now just follow these 4 easy steps:

1. Type in the Zip Code 15401

Click search available numbers

Choose a number w/ 724 Area Code (Cheapest numbers should be 456, 426, 570) Uncontract Pa.

2. Pick your own 4 digit pin number.

3. Enter your own phone number, (the number you want to be called) and specify either "home" or "mobile".

4. Now you will see a 2 Digit code on the screen. Click on 'call me now' when prompted. Once your phone rings, answer the call and enter the 2 Digit code. It will then tell you that you have successfully activated that phone line and you will see the same message on your computer screen.

If you want to activate more than one phone line, you will have to repeat this entire process with a new Gmail account for each phone.

Now that the phone line is activated through Google, there is one small change when you receive a phone call from an inmate. Before being prompted to enter '5' on your phone to accept the call, you will now first be prompted to enter '1'. After entering '1' say 'hello' as always and now you will be prompted to enter '5' to accept the call.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
CONSUMER & GOVT. AFFAIRS BUREAU

445 12TH STREET S.W. R-CY8514
WASHINGTON-D.C. 20554

26th NOVEMBER 2012
Received & Inspected

DEC 03 2012

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

FCC Mail Room

I AM A 67 YR. OLD FORMER FEDERAL EMPLOYEE
AND FORMER INVESTIGATOR WITH THE N.Y.C. BOARD
OF CORRECTION.

I AM CURRENTLY A PRISONER IN THE N.Y.S.
PRISON SYSTEM.

I AM WRITING ON BEHALF OF MY WIFE: JUDITH
MALDONADO-06 WEST FARMS SQUARE PLAZA
APT. 9H- BRONX- N.Y. 10460-2945- TELEPHONE
718-991-2846. THE TELEPHONE SYSTEM IN
N.Y.S. PRISONS FOR USE BY PRISONERS IS PROVIDED
BY: VALUE ADDED COMMUNICATIONS- INC.- POST
OFFICE BOX 122430- DALLAS- TEXAS 75267-
8517- TEL- 1-800-913-6097. ENCLOSED IS A
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE COPY OF A U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
MONEY ORDER DATED 02-06-2012 MADE OUT TO
V.A.C. [VALUE ADDED COMMUNICATIONS] IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$20.00 TO ACTIVATE AN ACCOUNT
SO I ~~COULD~~ CONTINUE TO BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE
WITH MY WIFE, ALTHOUGH TELEPHONE SERVICE IS
AUTOMATICALLY AUTHORIZED ONCE V.A.C. RECEIVES
PAYMENT [SEE EXHIBIT "A"] AS OF THE ABOVE
DATE THE SERVICE HAS NEVER BEEN TURNED
ON. EXHIBIT "A" CLEARLY SHOWS THE FRONT OF THE
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE MONEY ORDER FOR \$20.00
MADE OUT TO "V.A.C." AND THE BACK OF THAT
MONEY ORDER SHOWING THAT IT WAS CASHED.
IN SPITE OF NUMEROUS CALLS TO V.A.C. BY
MY WIFE- ELEVEN MONTHS LATER V.A.C. HAS
STILL NOT ACTIVATED THE ACCOUNT.

I STRONGLY SUGGEST- THAT V.A.C. HAS
DELIBERATELY NOT ACTIVATED THE ACCOUNT
IN RETALIATION FOR A COMPLAINT LETTER I

S. SMOLLEN
#85A4082

II

F.C.C.
11/26/12

- SENT QUESTIONING WHAT I BELIEVE ARE ILLEGAL BUSINESS PRACTICES. ILLEGAL BY FEDERAL AS WELL AS N.Y.S. COMMUNICATIONS LAWS, SEE EXHIBITS "C" AND "D". THOSE PRACTICES INCLUDE: ① NOT INFORMING THEIR CUSTOMERS OF THE DATES-TIMES-AND TIME OF CALLS MADE - BALANCE OF ACCOUNT ETC.. ② THEY CHARGE \$7.95 PROCESSING FEE IF A CUSTOMER USES A CREDIT CARD - SEE EXHIBIT "C". ③ AFTER 180 DAYS OF NO ACCOUNT ACTIVITY A MONTHLY INACTIVITY FEE OF \$4.95 WILL BE ACCESSED - SO ONE IS CHARGED A FEE FOR NOT USING THEIR SERVICE SEE EXHIBIT "C". ④ SINCE THEY NEVER PROVIDE A CUSTOMER WITH AN ACCOUNT BALANCE/USE SHEET A CUSTOMER IS UNAWARE OF ANY CURRENT BALANCE.

I FILED A COMPLAINT WITH THE N.Y.S. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION - BUT THEY CLAIM THAT SINCE V.A.C. HAS A CONTRACT WITH N.Y.S. DEPT. OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES & COMMUNITY SUPERVISION - THEY ARE UNABLE TO ENFORCE ANY APPLICABLE LAWS. HOWEVER - I FOUND NO EXCEPT FOR TELEPHONE CONTRACTS IN THE LAW.

SINCE V.A.C. TOOK OVER PROVIDING TELEPHONE SERVICE TO N.Y.S. PRISONS - MY WIFE AND I HAVE ~~REPEATEDLY~~ IN WRITING AND VIA THE TELEPHONE REQUESTED THAT V.A.C. CHARGE MY CALLS DIRECTLY TO MY WIFE'S HOME TELEPHONE ACCOUNT. THREE YEARS OF REPEATED REQUESTS AND THEY STILL HAVEN'T BILLED MY WIFE'S HOME TELEPHONE ACCOUNT. I SUSPECT THAT THE REASON THEY HAVEN'T DONE SO IS TO AVOID THE FEE V.A.C. WOULD HAVE TO PAY MY WIFE'S TELEPHONE COMPANY TO COLLECT FOR V.A.C. THE FEES THAT MY CALLS WOULD INCUR.

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOUR AGENCY INVESTIGATE THIS COMPLAINT AND ALL OF THE

S. SMOLEN
#85A4082

III

F.C.C.
11/26/12

BUSINESS PRACTICES OF V.A.C.? I would
FURTHER REQUEST- THAT YOUR AGENCY FORWARD
A COPY OF THIS COMPLAINT TO THE FEDERAL
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE- TO ALSO CONDUCT
AN INVESTIGATION INTO V.A.C.'S TAX REPORTS- SINCE
NOT PROVIDING CUSTOMERS OF THEIR SERVICE -
WITH ANY ACCOUNT- BALANCE SHEETS- ALLOWS
FOR THE STRONG POSSIBILITY TO UNDER-REPORT
REVENUE EARNED?

I AM FURTHER REQUESTING- THAT V.A.C. BILL
MY WIFE'S HOME TELEPHONE CARRIER FOR ANY
AND ALL CALLS THAT I MAKE TO MY WIFE USING
THEIR SERVICE? THAT V.A.C. IMMEDIATELY ACTI-
VATE MY WIFE'S ACCOUNT AND TO EXPLAIN TO THE
F.C.C. WHY THEY HAVEN'T DONE SO- SINCE
RECEIVING PAYMENT MORE THAN ELEVEN
MONTHS AGO? THAT V.A.C. SHOULD CREDIT MY
WIFE'S ACCOUNT WITH THE \$10.00 FEE- THAT
THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE CHARGED MY WIFE TO
VERIFY THAT V.A.C. HAD INDEED RECEIVED
AND CASHED MY WIFE'S U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
MONEY ORDER- SEE EXHIBIT "B". AND EXHIBIT
"A"?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME- COOPERATION AND
CONSIDERATION. I LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING
YOUR REPLY.

CC: N.Y.S. ATT'Y GEN. -	- RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED -
N.Y.S. PUBLIC SERVICE	Samuel J. Smolen, Jr.
COMMISSION	S. SMOLEN #85A4082
N.Y.S. DEPT. OF CORREC-	P.O. BOX 4000
- TIONAL SERVICES AND	STORMVILLE - N.Y.
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION	12582-4000
- N.Y. TIMES -	
WASHINGTON POST	
FILE	

Received & Inspected

DEC - 3 2012

FCC Mail Room

SCI-Green

175 progress drive

Waynesburg, PA 15370

November 6, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski

Federal Communications Commission

Public Comments

445 12th St. SW

Washington, DC 20554

This is A Public comment For The wright
Petition CC Docket # 96-128

Chairman Genachowski:

I'm writing in response to your fight to lower the high cost of phone calls from prisoners.

I'm incarcerated at SCI-Greene, Greene County, Pennsylvania. For me to call home (in-state) is \$5.41 through a pre-paid calling card sold in the prison commissary and \$6.00 to call collect (both 15 minute calls). This is simply too much money for most of my family, my support network, to afford. I have very limited contact with my family due to the excessive cost of these phone calls.

Recently, Pennsylvania transferred more than 1,000 inmates to Michigan due to overcrowding. Phone calls from MI to PA were only \$1.80 for the same 15 minute call. These are the same phone calls I try to make from Pennsylvania but can't afford, but in Michigan they were 70% cheaper. I don't understand how rates from MI to PA are 30% of the cost we pay in PA for in-state calls.

Too many people that I can't call because they can't afford the cost. These are the same family members and friends

whose support I need to have a successful reentry into society upon my release, but I'm losing my relationships with them due to the lack of interaction and contact.

I hope something can be done because it seems like all the phone company (GTL) and Department of Corrections do is take advantage of our situation.

Sincerely,

Kijiem Hagwood

Received & inspected

11-26-12

TO: Chairman Julius Genaco

DEC 03 2012
FCC Mail Room

From: MARK McKinney AM-9960 SCIEGREENE
175 Progress Drive, Waynesburg, PA 15370

Subject: Public Comment for Wright Petition
CC Docket # 96-128

Briefly I AM A PRISONER A Great
Distant from my Home. The only way
that I have rare contact with my
Love ones is by phone. There is
NO REASON why PA. phone cost for Prison
is so High. I WAS recently sent from
PA to Mich. & the Cost per minute
was just 0.10¢ A minute.

Sir, your Attention & Cooperation
towards this matter will be kindly
Appreciated upon Receipt.

Thank you much,

AM-9960 MARK McKinney
—